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metro

NEW YORK Thursday, May 2, 2013
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Queens man found buried in backyard

Investigation. Body discovered wrapped in sheets is believed to be Queens resident Frank Soucie, 60.
Suspect. According to an NYPD source, Soucie's stepson has turned himself in to the police. PAGE 05



F Train receives F for delays

Subway line has most delays of any in the city, says new study. / AARON ADLER, METRO

Brosnan pierces our hearts with new romance

PAGE 13



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1 NEWS



In the news

New York Tourism summit

Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced yesterday that he will hold a state tourism summit with industry leaders and business owners on May 8 to discuss ways to keep the industry growing. The summit will consider ideas for increasing jobs and revenue from tourism. A record 202 million visitors from around the world came to New York in 2011, which the state said created 694,000 jobs and brought \$53.9 billion in revenue.

Quoted

"I urge Council Member Halloran to think hard about whether he should go further and step down immediately."

Council Speaker
Christine Quinn

Cutting red tape



New muni meter bill.

WILLIAM ALATRISTE

Bill eases muni meter headaches

Proposed legislation would help drivers save money at muni meters, Speaker Christine Quinn and other council members announced Wednesday.

Under the proposed bill, muni meters would turn off when drivers do not need to pay for parking, give drivers a five-minute grace period and not accept payments when there is no paper for printing receipts.

EVELYN CHENG

Green space

NY park day this weekend

New York will celebrate its second annual I Love My Park Day this Saturday with volunteer work at parks and historical sites.

With a turnout of 2,000 volunteers last year, the state expects twice that number this year to clean and beautify parks, including those damaged by Superstorm Sandy.

EVELYN CHENG



An F train conductor waits for the all clear before departing. The line had the most delays of all the city's routes last year. / AARON ADLER, METRO

F Train tops worst subway lines in NYC

Delays. The F has the most delays in New York, according to a new study.

In a surprise twist that will shock the world, or at least Brooklyn and Queens, a recent analysis by the Straphangers Campaign found that the dreaded G train has the fewest delays of all the train lines.

So Brooklynites blaming failed relationships on the G may need to direct blame elsewhere — like

its Park Slope companion, the F, which had the most delay alerts in the first 10 months of 2012.

Less surprising was the discovery that delay alerts increased after Superstorm Sandy. The campaign largely focused on the first 10 months of the year to avoid confounding the results with the aftereffects of the storm.

The study analyzed the MTA's "electronic alerts," which are sent out in real time to warn riders of significant issues.

Straphangers only included delays that are

deemed controllable by the MTA. As the MTA does not record the duration of a delay, it was not possible to determine how long they lasted — so while the G train had the fewest delay alerts with 34, or one percent of a total 2,669, those delays may have extended longer than the F train's, which comprised eight percent of the total.

What do you think the worst train line is? Write to us at letters@metro.us.



DANIELLE

TCHLOAKIAN

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Other findings

- The L worsened the most — by 60% — to 134 alerts in 2012.
- "Mechanical problems" generated the most alerts — 36% — or 949 out of 2,669 alerts in 2012.
- The G is the MTA's Most Improved Player: It had 19 percent fewer delay alerts than in the same time period in 2011, down from 42.

Cycle City. Five Borough Bike tour kicks off with Expo.

In honor of national bike month, Sunday's TD Five Boro Bike Tour will kick off with Bike Expo New York on May 3 and 4.

With events for the family, the free expo features a Q&A session on the city's bike-share program, bike riding instruction and a showcase of biking-related exhibi-

tors. Located at Pier 36 along the East River at South and Montgomery streets, the expo takes place in the days leading up to the race.

Bikers in this year's tour will be raising funds to help victims of the Boston Marathon bombing.

EVELYN CHENG



The bike ride is this weekend.

GETTY IMAGES

Election. Prosecutors: John Liu knew about straw donor scheme

A federal prosecutor says City Comptroller John Liu had to have known that two of his associates conducted the straw donor scheme that landed them in handcuffs.

Manhattan US Attorney Justin Anderson told jurors that secret recordings prove Liu's fundraiser Xing Wu "Oliver" Pan

used code words to tell his boss that \$16,000 in contributions came from a businessman named Richard Kong, the New York Post reports.

A lawyer for Liu said there is no evidence that proves the comptroller knew of any wrongdoing, according to the Post.

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4



Shop owners say the laws would push smokers to the black market.
AARON ADLER, METRO

Bodega owners push back on cigarette laws

Smokers. Store
owners rallied
yesterday about
proposed changes.

sociation of Convenience
Stores, "Our small stores
are part of the lifeblood
of our neighborhoods,
and if they're complying
with the laws, there's no
reason to saddle them
with the additional regu-
lations in these proposals
that could put them out of
business."

Putting more tobacco rules
on the books will lead to
people buying cigarettes
on the black market, shop
owners said yesterday.

Convenience store
owners are gearing up for
a fight against Mayor Mi-
chael Bloomberg's propos-
al to keep cigarettes out of
sight in their shops.

Shop owners in the
Save Our Stores Coalition
met yesterday at a tobacco
store near City Hall, saying
that the administration's
plans will be a stress on
their businesses.

The council is sched-
uled to discuss bills today
that propose raising the
legal age to buy tobacco
to 21 and limiting the vis-
ible display of cigarettes
in stores across New York
City.

"Our members do not
need these additional
tobacco product sales re-
strictions," said Ramon
Murphy, president of The
Bodega Association of the
United States.

Added Jim Calvin,
president of the NY As-

Members say that the
group represents about
10,000 tobacco retailers
and more than 56,000 em-
ployees. It includes stores
like 7-Eleven franchises,
union members and The
Bodega Association of the
United States.

Chong Sik Lee, presi-
dent of the Korean-Amer-
ican Grocers Association
of NY, suggested that the
city should focus instead
on enforcing laws that are
already on the books.

The group said that the
proposed changes would
send more customers to il-
legal, black-market sellers
who peddle their wares on
the streets.

"If [stores] go out of
business ... the only ones
who benefit are the guys
selling illegal tobacco
products from out of their
trunk," Calvin said.



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Bootleg cigarettes

"If [stores] go out of business ... the only
ones who benefit are the guys selling illegal
tobacco products from out of their trunk."

Jim Calvin, president of the NY Association of Convenience Stores

Investigation. Man's body discovered in Queens backyard

Cops believe a body found wrapped in sheets in a shallow grave in a Queens backyard is that of Frank Soucie, 60, reported missing on Sunday by his girlfriend, a law enforcement source told Metro.

Police suspect Soucie's girlfriend's son, who a neighbor of Soucie's reported seeing throwing out a large bag and a burnt jacket belonging to Soucie around 11:45 a.m. Detectives found a burnt sleeping bag in the garbage can, the source reported.

There was also a freshly dug mound in the backyard that they had not seen when they visited the home the day before when investigating the missing-person report.

The source said Soucie's stepson turned himself in Monday night. The 27-year-old sus-

Possible evidence

- When cops reported to Soucie's home to investigate, they followed bloody drag marks from the roof of a neighboring house to the roof of Soucie's home.
- They found ammonia, rubber gloves, a plastic container, a laundry cord and an unidentified liquid, according to a police source.

pect has two prior arrests, one for forcible touching and one for jumping a turnstile.

Soucie was reported missing by his girlfriend — the stepson's mother — on April 28, cops said.

Police were still waiting on an autopsy before determining the arrest charges, a law source told Metro. **DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN**



Worker's rights star on NYC May Day

People march for immigrant workers' rights in Manhattan and for a living wage as part of various May Day rallies that took place all across the five boroughs yesterday. May Day celebrates workers' rights and advocates for fair treatment of workers in every industry. / GETTY IMAGES

Busted for fraud

Car dealers face charges

Nine used-car dealers in Brooklyn and Queens face charges from the city for fraudulent business practices.

The city seeks to revoke their licenses and extract \$1 million in fines. **EVELYN CHENG**

No shame

Man robs elderly man

Cops are searching for a man who robbed an elderly man in the East Village.

According to cops, on Jan. 29 a man befriended the 81-year-old victim and offered to help with errands.

At the man's home, the suspect robbed him.

Anyone with info should call 800-577-TIPS **LAURA SHIN**



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Scandal. Halloran decides not to seek re-election to council

Queens Councilman Dan Halloran, who was arrested about a month ago on corruption charges along with state Sen. Malcolm Smith for allegedly trying to rig the 2013 mayoral election, announced yesterday that he is cutting short his campaign for re-election to the council in order to focus his energies on clearing his name.

Halloran and Smith are accused of trying to use bribes to get Smith on the GOP ballot in the city's mayoral race this November. The election decides who will replace Mayor Bloomberg after his three terms in office.

"Regrettably, I must now focus my attention on clearing my name and restoring my reputation, while I continue to discharge my sworn duties as a member of the New York City Council," Halloran said in a statement. "After much thought,



Dan Halloran / WILLIAM ALATRISTE

I have concluded that it is impossible for me to properly do these things and take on the enormous demands of a political campaign."

Halloran maintained his innocence and said that he is "confident that [he] will ultimately be vindicated."

"Our nation enshrines the presumption of innocence for a reason, and I look forward to having my day in court," he said in the statement.

DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN

Activists rally at May Day protests



Workers rallied yesterday in Union Square, one of the May Day demonstrations in the city. / GETTY IMAGES

Fair wage. May Day has long been known for worldwide protests highlighting workers' rights.

An array of activists, from immigrants to jazz musicians to Occupy Wall Street members, met at Union Square yesterday for an annual May Day march for labor rights.

The rally occurred just after federal officials announced the number of workers who died as a result of Hurricane Sandy. In New York and New Jersey,

16 workers died, according to a U.S. Department of Labor spokesman.

May Day traditionally has also drawn scores of immigrants to rallies in New York City, calling for immigration reform and more possibilities for jobs and education.

"We are not criminals," said Margarito Lopez, a Hot & Crusty worker, before the protest. "All we want is to look after and take care of our families."

Workers rallying included musicians in a local union, who said artists playing the city's toniest clubs are not always protected.

The Justice for Jazz Artists campaign, noting May

Sandy workers death toll

16

The May Day rallies around New York City yesterday occurred just after federal officials announced the total number of workers who died as a result of Superstorm Sandy. In New York and New Jersey, a total of 16 workers died, according to a U.S. Department of Labor spokesman.

Day followed International Jazz Day, says jazz club musicians do not always receive fair pay or have a way to complain if they think their rights were violated.

Joining the march were Occupy Wall Street protesters, who started at New York University and continued to City Hall.

Food service workers got started early with

the annual event's labor movement, protesting yesterday at the New York City Economic Development Corporation.

About a dozen workers went to the agency to ask that they only fund employers with verifiable business practices.



ALISON BOWEN
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Millions of records now available

Gov. Cuomo announced the addition of millions of records to the state transparency site open.ny.gov, including campaign contributions, lists of lobbyists and a directory of state employees. **EVELYN CHENG**

Storm planning

Grand Central adds backup generators

Two emergency generators were installed at Grand Central yesterday to power systems in a blackout.

The \$17 million initiative is to help prepare for future storms like Sandy.

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Three charged with links to marathon bombing suspect



Police stand outside the John Joseph Moakley Courthouse after authorities arrested three men yesterday in connection with the Boston Marathon bombings. / GETTY IMAGES

Suspects. A law enforcement source said two of the men were being held by immigration officials for violating the terms of their visas.

Three men were taken into custody in the investigation of last month's deadly Boston Marathon bombing and charged with interfering with the probe, not planning or carrying out

the attack, prosecutors said yesterday.

Two of the men were university classmates of 19-year-old Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, who last week was criminally charged with planting homemade pressure-cooker bombs at the marathon finish line on April 15 along with his older brother, Tamerlan Tsarnaev.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Massachusetts said on its official Twitter feed that the three men will face charges of obstruction of justice and making false

statements.

Papers filed in federal court said authorities charged two men, Azamat Tazhayakov and Dias Kadyrbayev, with conspiracy to obstruct justice by throwing away a backpack containing fireworks and a laptop computer belonging to Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

Prosecutors also charged a man identified as Robel Phillipos with making false statements to investigators after the bombings, which killed three people and injured 264 others. **REUTERS**

Shooting. Boy, 5, accidentally kills sister with own rifle

A 2-year-old girl was accidentally shot to death by her 5-year-old brother with a rifle he received as a birthday gift, Kentucky authorities said yesterday.

The shooting occurred Tuesday afternoon in Burkesville, Ky., a community in the south-central part of the state, when the boy was playing with the .22-caliber rifle and

accidentally shot his sister in the chest, state police said.

The boy had received a Crickett youth model gun for his birthday in November, Cumberland County Coroner Gary White said.

These guns have child-safety locks, according to White, but "evidently when the gun was put up, there was a live round in it." **REUTERS**

Jobs

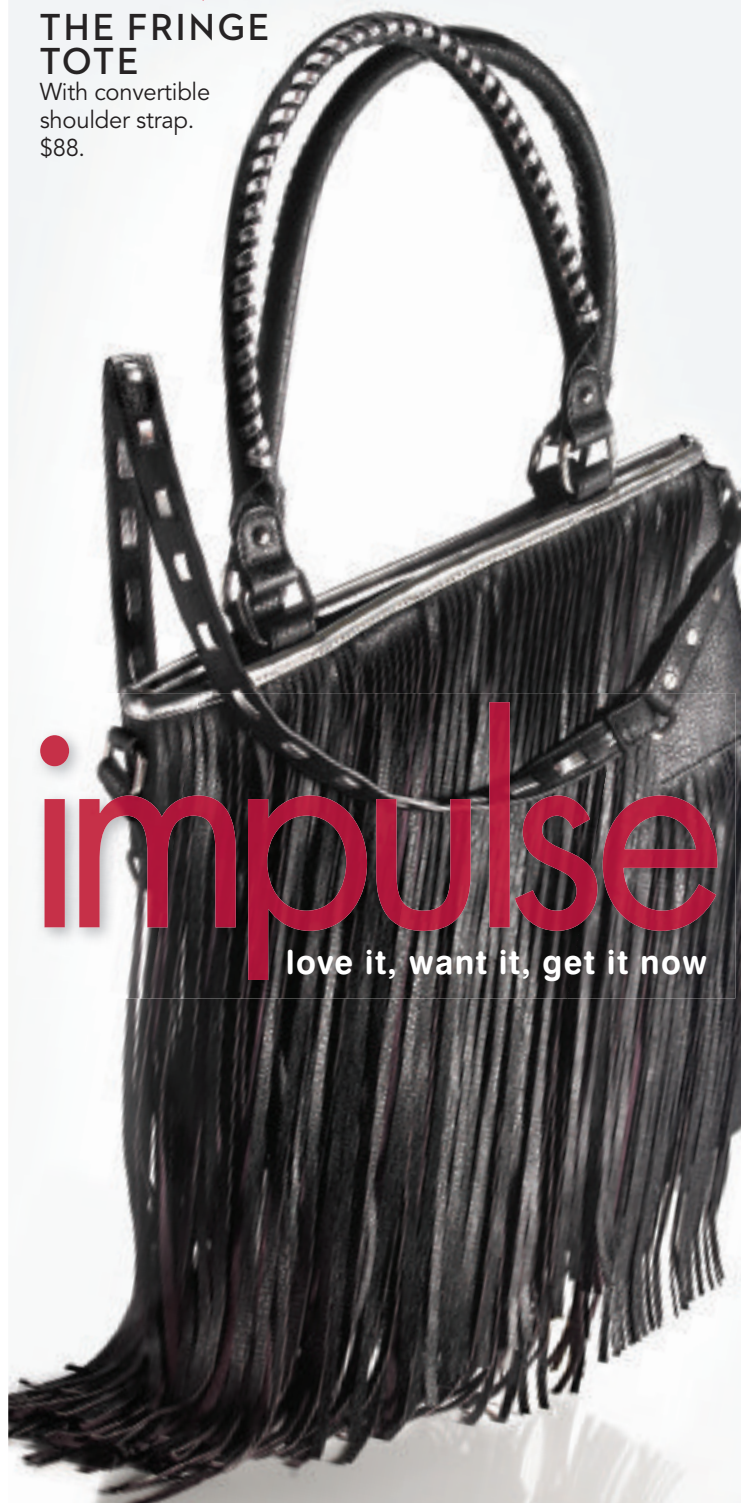
Companies hire less, manufacture slows in April

U.S. companies hired the fewest employees in seven months in April while manufacturing growth slowed, suggesting the economy has run into a soft patch.

Businesses added 119,000 employees to payrolls last month, according to the ADP National Employment Report. **REUTERS**

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Westboro member: Boston bombings were 'God's will'

Judgment.

Widely regarded as hatemongers, church members say their message is actually one of love.

Twelve years ago, Steve Drain traveled from Florida to Topeka, Kan., to make a documentary about the controversial Westboro Baptist Church. The self-described "former long-haired Libertarian grad student" witnessed a change in himself and made plans to move his family to Topeka and join Westboro in its mission to preach the scriptures. Widely regarded as hatemongers who hold provocative signs outside funerals of soldiers killed in battle, church members say their message is actu-



A woman from Westboro Baptist Church rallies against gay marriage at the Supreme Court during the Prop 8 and DOMA hearings earlier this year. / GETTY IMAGES

ally one of love.

From his home in Topeka, Drain gives Metro a glimpse into the minds of the people who are written off as cult members by most of the nation. Aside from their religious views, Drain said, Westboro Bap-

tist Church members are pretty likable people.

You had made some mentions on Twitter of the Boston bombings. Why didn't you end up picketing the funerals of bombing victims?

So many things happen, we just can't get to it all. It doesn't really matter — the preaching still happens. There were hundreds of stories about us going to picket the memorial services in Boston and almost every one would

include something like, 'WBC believes God was punishing America for homosexuality.' As soon as they say that, it's like we have already picketed.

What were your thoughts when you saw hundreds of people form a human shield against your presumed presence?
I'm not surprised. People don't really hate us. If it weren't for the fact that we believe a hardcore, fundamental translation of the Bible, people would like us. We are hardworking, honest, fair, funny. The Lord Jesus Christ said, 'Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you, for my sake.'



CASSANDRA GARRISON
cassandra.garrison@metro.us

Boston terror

WBC thinks bombings were God's curse

The Westboro Baptist Church is on record as saying God sent the Boston bombers. Are you essentially saying that crime was God's will — and that you agree with God's will?

What we are saying is this: Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it? Was God on vacation during that day? If God can bless the nation, he can curse the nation. When people are running down the streets of Boston and get blown up, that was a curse of God. If God hadn't wanted those people to get blown up, they wouldn't have gotten blown up. We're not trying to be arrogant about it, but those things happen according to God's will.

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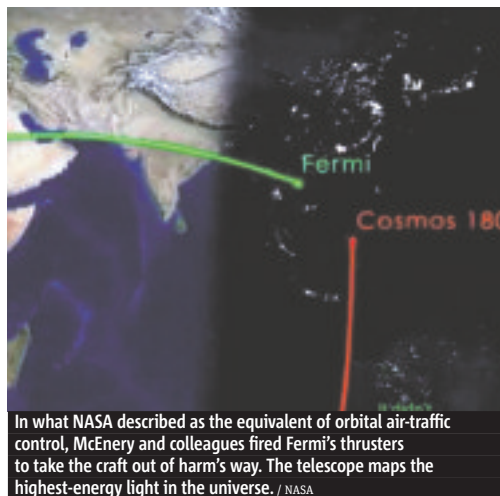
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Revealed. How NASA avoided mid-space collision last month



In what NASA described as the equivalent of orbital air-traffic control, McEnery and colleagues fired Fermi's thrusters to take the craft out of harm's way. The telescope maps the highest-energy light in the universe. / NASA

Scientists at NASA have revealed how one of their spacecraft came within a few hundred feet of a catastrophic collision with a defunct Soviet-era spy satellite last month.

The NASA craft, the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope, was on the same trajectory as Cosmos 1805 — and the two craft were closing at a combined speed of 27,000 miles per hour. On the morning of March 29 this year, NASA scientist Julie McEnery received an email warning her of the approaching collision, which would have resulted in an explosion releasing the equivalent of energy from two and a half tons of high explosives.

"My immediate reaction was, 'Whoa, this is different from anything we've seen before!'" McEnery recalled at Nasa.gov.

Calculations showed that on April 4 the craft would, with luck, pass within 700 feet of each other and, for 30 milliseconds, occupy precisely the same amount of space. Despite there being lots of satellites and other space junk orbiting the earth, spacecraft usually do not get anywhere near as close to each other.

Scientists learned to their cost in 2009 that they had to treat near approaches with extreme caution, after another defunct Russian satellite, Cosmos 2251, smashed into a communications satellite, Iridium 33. NASA only realized that the organization's worst fears had come true when it started to track clouds of debris floating away from the collision site. It was the first recorded satellite-to-satellite collision. **METRO**

New Zealand

Couple wanted to name child Anal

Officials in New Zealand have prevented parents from naming their newborn baby Anal, according to a list of names they have banned, released yesterday.

Another family wanted to register their child's first name to be written as a period (to be

pronounced Full Stop). Officials in Auckland soon put a stop to that.

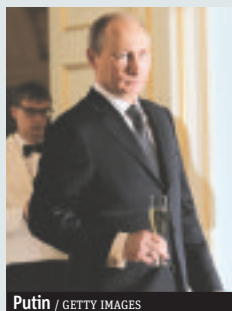
Other names that were banned in 2012 were 4Real, V8 and Queen Victoria.

New Zealand issues a similar list each year. The annual ritual first caught public attention in 2008 when officials prevented a couple from calling their daughter Talula Does The Hula From Hawaii. **TONY METCALF, METRO**

Russian culture

Putin restores Soviet-era labor award

President Vladimir Putin likes to deny that he is taking Russia back to the USSR, but yesterday he dusted off another communist relic by restoring a labor medal introduced under Josef Stalin.



Putin / GETTY IMAGES

A week after telling the nation there was nothing in Russia that smacked of the late Soviet dictator, Putin pinned the Hero of Labor award on five recipients in St. Petersburg, the cradle of the 1917 revolution that swept communists to power.

The name has changed slightly from Stalin's Hero of Socialist

Labor, which rewarded outstanding work for the Soviet nation.

Putin has made no secret of his attempt to appeal to the conservative values and patriotism of the working class, his main power base, and counter the threat of the mainly middle-class demonstrators who led protests against him last year. **REUTERS**

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J.C. Penney apologizes to shoppers via social media

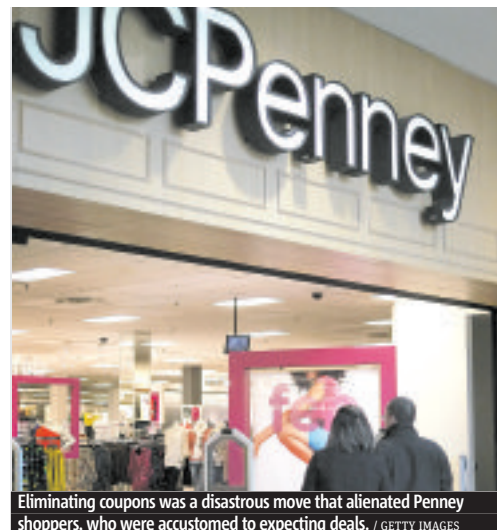
Drop. Last year, sales plunged by 25 percent after chief executive largely eliminated the use of coupons and sales in favor of regular low prices.

J.C. Penney Company Inc., recognizing it made mistakes in its attempt to reinvent itself last year, launched a social media and television campaign yesterday that asked shoppers who left in droves to come back.

Penney posted a video on Facebook featuring images of classic J.C. Penney stores from the 1960s and family scenes with a female voiceover saying, "What matters with mistakes is what we learn. We learned a very simple thing — to listen to you."

The narrator ends with: "Come back to J.C. Penney — we heard you. Now we'd love to see you."

The video also appeared on YouTube and will run on broadcast tele-



Eliminating coupons was a disastrous move that alienated Penney shoppers, who were accustomed to expecting deals. / GETTY IMAGES

vision this week.

Young & Rubicam helped Penney with the execution, but Penney's internal marketing department came up with the concept several months ago.

One customer, identifying herself as Tammy Pennington, left a comment on the Facebook post that said: "Next time, remem-

ber this. If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Johnson, who was replaced by his predecessor Myron Ullman, was brought in to stabilize the ailing retailer and sought to turn Penney's larger locations into emporia with 100 boutiques for hip but affordable fashion and home-goods brands.

REUTERS

Perfect pair. First legal online poker site in state of Nevada

Already home to the Las Vegas strip with its casinos and high-stakes games, Nevada on Tuesday became the first state where residents can legally play poker online for money.

Station Casinos went live with UltimatePoker.com after Nevada legalized online poker in February. New Jersey and Delaware have also legalized online gambling, which could even-

tually generate billions of dollars in revenue for companies and local governments.

UltimatePoker.com will operate under a 30-day license, said A.G. Burnett, chairman of the Nevada Gaming Control Board, while the site works out some technicalities before getting a formal license that he said would likely be granted.

REUTERS

Lethal injection

Ohio executes man for killing 6-month-old

The state of Ohio yesterday executed a man who was convicted of killing a 6-month-old girl during a drunken sexual assault in 1998.

Steven T. Smith, 46, was put to death at 10:29 a.m. by lethal injection at a state prison in Lucasville, Ohio, according to the state corrections department.

REUTERS

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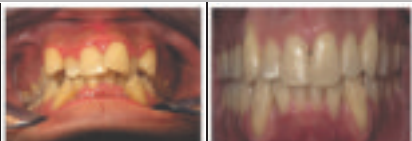
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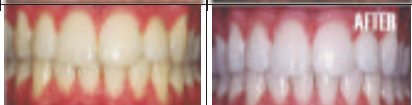


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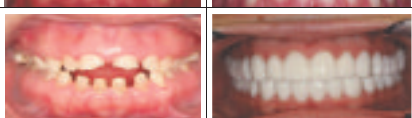
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CULTURE



Twitter feed

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Judd Apatow is admitting he has a problem, Dana Delany is making new friends, Olivia Wilde is perfectly capable of seasoning her own food and Garry Shandling is tired of his own nonsense.

@JuddApatow: I am such a hoarder I can't even close open windows on my computer.

@DanaDelany: At the bar, met Chris & Mike from Schiavone Construction who are bringing the subway to LA. About time.

@oliviawilde: At what point did waiters stop trusting us with the pepper grinder?

@GarryShandling: Good night. I'm now going to block myself.

Help! What does this dress of Jennifer Aniston's mean?!

Oh, man. Jennifer Aniston. What are you doing to us? How in the world can you show up to an event in a dress that has been alternately described as a "billowy," "loose" and "definitely maternity"? What does this mean?! Of course, it could just be that the actress is wearing a loose-fitting dress at the book launch party for Mandy Ingber's "Yogalosophy: 28 Days to the Ultimate Mind-Body Makeover" and we are all jumping to conclusions. And honestly, if I were Jennifer Aniston, I'd wear dresses like this until the day I die just to continuously mess with the minds of the baby-hungry public at large.

But! Here's what is also suspicious: It seems like the actress has moved her wedding date and

is passing the blame to Brad Pitt (ex-husbands are always good scapegoats). She doesn't want to overlap with his and Angelina Jolie's rumored wedding this summer, according to *Us Weekly*. "She does not want her day associated with them," a source says, adding that when Aniston first heard of Pitt's wedding date she considered moving up her wedding to Justin Theroux so it would take place before it — but her fiancé talked her out of that idea. "Justin got weirded out by all the rushing," Aniston has now reportedly put her wedding plans completely on hold. "Nothing has happened on that front in a month," the source says.

Maybe that's because she's pregnant?! Or not. Only time, and more billowy dresses, will tell.



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson's take on the world of gossip

DOROTHY ROBINSON

@dorothyatmetro
dorothy.robinson@metro.us



Lohan will not be blogging about rehab

Today's the day that Lindsay Lohan has to report for 90 days of court-ordered rehab, though at press time no facility had been chosen yet, according to *E!* News. If she doesn't check in somewhere, she will be "required to show up to court on Thursday with her lawyer in L.A.," a source says. But one thing's at least for sure: Lohan won't be blogging about the experience while she's locked up, despite a report that she'd be using her personal website to chronicle her rehab (as a gossip reporter, I'm sad about this; as a human being, I'm pretty pleased). "She will not be blogging from rehab, but she does plan to have her own space on the Web where she can talk about her passions," another source says.

Wolverine and the razor: The aftermath

What is the charge of throwing a razor full of pubes at a celebrity? Is there, like, a book the DA looks at that says: Razor full of pubes = misdemeanor or stalking and harassment charges? Because that's what Hugh Jackman's unwelcome New York gym buddy got slapped with, along with a burglary charge, two weeks after she barged into a Gotham gym and threw an electric razor filled with her own pubic hair at the "Wolverine" star. It's unclear what the woman is being accused of stealing.



J. Law reunites with ex-boyfriend for a night

Jennifer Lawrence and ex-boyfriend Nicholas Hoult reunited for dinner in Los Angeles this week, staking out a table at the back of a West Hollywood restaurant and getting cuddly for a few hours before slipping out the back. Lawrence and Hoult, who split up

earlier this year, appeared to be having "a nice time together," a source tells *Us Weekly*, but Lawrence grew uncomfortable after noticing someone trying to snap a photo. They're currently filming the next "X-Men," so it could have been business or pleasure.

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Traveling through Europe for a wedding ... sound familiar?

Film. Pierce Brosnan's new movie sounds a lot like "Mamma Mia," but the actor is cool with it.

You won't hear Pierce Brosnan singing in his new film, "Love Is All You Need" — but not by his choice.

"I did say to [director] Susanne [Bier], 'Look, maybe a nice song here,' he says before breaking into song. 'Lemon tree, very pretty' I thought, 'maybe, what do you think, Susanne?' She smacked me down. No singing. The world is safe away from my singing."

Brosnan's self-deprecating humor and confidence ("I'd sing again in a heartbeat — I don't give a damn what they say," he tells us) is evident offscreen. But onscreen, in his new film, he's much more subdued, as a vineyard owner who's become jaded by love. Could the actor relate?

"No, not to the extent of this character, not re-

ally, but there are many emblems within this film which I could identify with — being a father, being a widower, being a single parent, having it up to the back teeth with women and love, bumping into the furniture, standing up [and] falling down — just the usual trials of being human."

The plot follows Brosnan's character, Philip, as he travels to Italy for his son's wedding. A chance pre-wedding meeting with the mother of the bride (played by Danish actress Trine Dyrholm) sets into motion a change in heart for Philip.

If you read that and can't help but be reminded of another film of Brosnan's, you're not alone.

"Oh, the 'Mamma Mia' of it all is certainly there, and I don't think Susanne or anyone concerned finds any fault with that comparison," he says, "because if one could be half as great a hit as such a film that brought so much joy to people's lives — I believe this one has the qualities to do that. I think they're both

Quoted

"The world is safe away from my singing."

Brosnan



GETTY IMAGES

on the shelf, as bookends."

Playing the romantic lead is nothing new for the actor, who oozed sex appeal as James Bond — except here, there were no spy tools to play around with. Brosnan doesn't hesitate discussing the 007 series, which he handed over to Daniel Craig, saying he hopes to be remembered "as a believable Bond, as a good Bond, as an entertaining Bond."

"All I ever wanted was to be able to stand there and carry the film and create an audience, [or] bring back an audience that may have fallen by the wayside," he says. "When I stepped into those shoes, it'd been dormant for about six years, so it was quite an undertaking. It was quite daunting, and so you felt like you were in a time capsule. You felt like you were in a period piece in some respect, caught between Roger [Moore] and Sean [Connery]. They were always present in my life, especially Sean, because he was the one that I first saw and that captivated me as a young man."

Brosnan isn't bitter about ending his role — far from it, in fact.

"I have nothing but gratitude for that time and space and place, and it has allowed me to go on and make my own movies — 'Thomas Crown,' 'The Matador,' 'Evelyn,' 'The Greatest' — to create a company, to make a career."



MEREDITH ENGEL

meredith.engel@metro.us

Q&A

Life after Bond

The former Bond has indeed seen Daniel Craig in action, and he's got nothing but love for his successor, whom he ranks as second only behind Connery as the best Bond the franchise has ever seen.

"I think Connery is definitely — he's the man," Brosnan says. "I think Daniel is there now, without question. ... I saw 'Skyfall' because I was in London last year making a movie and everywhere I looked there was Daniel, so I thought, 'I have to go see this film.'"



"Fame:Psy" went on sale yesterday. / GETTY IMAGES FOR DCP

Korean rapper Psy's story immortalized

The story of South Korean music sensation Psy's ascent to global stardom has now been immortalized in a comic book.

"Fame:Psy," which went on sale in the United States and South Korea on Wednesday, focuses mainly on what went into making "Gangnam Style," which catapulted the

singer to global fame and became YouTube's most popular song ever.

"Has he fallen from the sky? Has he risen from the earth?" the comic begins, with illustrations showing Psy — in the suits he made famous in "Gangnam Style" and striking poses from his "Horse Riding Dance" — descending from heaven.

"It was the end of summer, 2012, when a little-known Asian rapper put his music video on YouTube. It exploded in popularity," continues the 26-page tale.

The comic covers the decade of Psy's pre-"Gangnam" career in Korea, the origins of the video and the dance and the fame that followed,

including scenes of a delighted Psy performing for President Barack Obama.

The comic, which also touches on the less happy parts of Psy's past such as being charged with possession of marijuana in 2002, includes a guide that shows readers how to do Psy's dance themselves.

REUTERS

10 Movies worth checking out

1 'Iron Man 3' Shane Black, once the highest-paid screenwriter in Hollywood, reunites with his "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang" star Robert Downey Jr. to fun up a franchise that got a little doughy in the second installment. And Guy Pearce is in there, too? Boom.

2 'Something in the Air' French filmmaker Olivier Assayas ("Summer Hours," "Carlos") turns once again to his youth in the '70s for inspiration, with this memory piece about his wasted youth as a floppy-haired artist-turned-radical.

3 'The Iceman' Michael Shannon, soon for General Zod in the new Superman thing, plays Richard Kuklinski, who lived a kind of real-life "True Lies": A family man whose wife and daughters had no idea he was a contract killer.



Gwyneth Paltrow clutches an Iron Man suit that may or may not contain Robert Downey Jr. / ZADE ROSENTHAL

4 'Kiss of the Damned' Like her siblings, Xan Cassavetes, son of John Cassavetes and Gena Rowlands, is a filmmaker. A cinephile (she made the doc "Z Channel: A

Magnificent Obsession"), she brings her pedigree to this vampire flick.

5 'Post Tenebras Lux' Mexican filmmaker Carlos Reygadas finally

follows up his marvel "Silent Light" with this maddeningly fragmented whatcha, which involves hot red devils and orgies and rugby and men pulling off their own heads,

and other seemingly random sights.

6 'What Maisie Knew' Scott McGhee and David Siegel ("The Deep End") return with this drama about a little girl caught in a nasty custody battle between her divorcing 'rents, based on the novel by Henry James. Julianne Moore, Steve Coogan and Alexander Skarsgård star.

7 'Love Is All You Need' Taking a title from the worst Beatles song, director Susanne Bier ("Brothers") and her former "Dogme" co-conspirator Anders Thomas Jensen does a no doubt intense twist on the rom-com, about a woman with cancer who falls in love with a widower at a wedding. Pierce Brosnan is the biggest name of the co-stars.

8 'Greetings from Tim Buckley' Penn

Badgley does his best Jeff Buckley in this portrait of the sensitive singer/songwriter as a young, pre-fame man, embodying him in the lead-up to the concert that would first make him a name. The talented (and brilliantly named) Imogen Poots co-stars.

9 'Scatter My Ashes at Bergdorf's' Is this a first? This documentary profiles not a person but a store, namely Bergdorf Goodman, and its storied legacy. Why not? Among the interviewed are Tom Ford, Karl Lagerfeld, Candice Bergen, Nicole Richie and the Olsen twins.

10 'Pain & Gain' We wanted another Michael Bay film. And for our sins, we got one.



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'Lazarus' provides a way to resurrect your love of dance

Review. Petronio's latest boasts some exquisitely trained movers.

The figure of Lazarus is abroad in the city, in Colm Toibin's "The Testament of Mary" on Broadway and now in Stephen Petronio's new choreography, "Like Lazarus Did." With an electro-acoustic musical mix by Son Lux that includes dozens of singers from the Young People's Chorus of New York City, and a large installation featuring artist Janine Antoni hanging over our heads swaddled in a sort of sledge, the hour-long piece takes us places we may not recognize. Is

this the Fertile Crescent at the dawn of Christianity? Are we watching a prelude to the agony of Jesus, or just fabulous bodies in constant motion on a Chelsea stage?

As fragments of vocal music, taken from American slave songs that resemble the more familiar spirituals, drift from the orchestra pit and the balcony, the dancers — mostly male — flail their bare limbs, forming small groups and, rarely, couples. A trumpet, a violin and 30 unearthly voices cascade in the theater, backed by percussion and industrial noise.

Petronio, a pioneer in the experimental-dance world, heads a troupe of strong, exquisitely trained movers who channel

themes of death and resurrection, sometimes as powerfully as foremother Martha Graham. H. Petal's constantly morphing costumes resemble grave wrappings or religious vestments, with the 10 wonderful performers occasionally stripping down to brief trunks — the piece is an odd fusion of religious imagery and beefcake. While referencing the miracle of Lazarus, it's also a litany of apocalypse.

The performers jump and wriggle and semaphore their arms, finally emerging into light after a long stretch of Ken Tabachnick's moody atmosphere.

ELIZABETH
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Joshua Green performs in "Like Lazarus Did." / JULIETA CERVANTES

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Shopping events

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TV watch list

COMEDY

'Parks and Recreation'

Bid adieu to Pawnee for the summer as Leslie celebrates her first year as a city councilwoman. Elsewhere, Andy's Burt Macklin makes a much-needed return.
9:30 P.M., NBC

REALITY

'The Show With Vinny'

It was tough not to classify this show as a comedy because we're pretty certain that's what it will unintentionally be. Because, yes, this is a talk show hosted by "Jersey Shore" cast member Vinny at his mom's Staten Island home. Tonight's guests are Lil Wayne and Jenna Marbles.
SERIES PREMIERE, 10 P.M., MTV



Miss "Jersey Shore"? Catch Vinny on his own talk show.
GREGG DEGUIRE/PICTUREGROUP

COMEDY

'Zach Stone Is Gonna Be Famous'

This clever sitcom finds comedian Bo Burnham starring as Zach Stone, a wannabe-famous high school grad who films his own talentless life in an effort to become an instant star. How meta!
SERIES PREMIERE, 10:30 P.M., MTV

TALK SHOW

'The Tonight Show With Jay Leno'

From "Today" to "Tonight," Matt Lauer emerges from his daytime haunt to discuss, we hope, the crazy year that has been morning television. Can Ann Curry swing by as well? Too soon? 11:35 P.M., NBC
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Where to celebrate Cinco de Mayo

From molé to margaritas, read on for our picks on where to indulge this weekend. / **CINDY AUGUSTINE**

Sueños

For its 10th birthday, Sueños is unveiling a brunch menu and expanded tequila and mezcal selection. Starting Saturday, swing by for coconut-habañero shrimp tacos and huevos rancheros.

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Gran Electrica

With a garden overlooking the Brooklyn Bridge, a mariachi band and a DJ spinning Latin tunes, the setting is perfect for an all-day fiesta. Just add a margarita and chorizo-and-potato quesadillas. **Sunday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m., 5 Front St., DUMBO, 718-852 2700**



Empellon

The West Village taqueria is offering a Cinco de Mayo menu featuring multiple courses of Alex Stupak's cuisine and unlimited margaritas, beer and wine. Find it Saturday (dinner only) and Sunday (brunch and dinner) and at the East side Empellon Cocina on Sunday for dinner only. Multiple seatings; reservations required. **230 W. Fourth St., 212-367-0999**

More ideas

Tacombi

In addition to their crispy fish tacos, Tacombi's new brunch items include chilaquiles verdes and huevos rancheros. Top it off with a spiked horchata and it's a fiesta! **267 Elizabeth St., 917-727-0179**

Salvation Taco

Salvation Taco will open its rooftop at noon on Sunday with the start of its \$5 Salvation Margarita special (which ends at 4 p.m.) Also on the menu: three al pastor tacos and a can of Modelo Especial for \$10, (from

5:30 p.m. until they run out.) **145 E. 39th St., 212-865-5800**

Tequila Park Taqueria

The party is on at the brand new park space in the Hudson

Hotel this Cinco de Mayo, from 2 p.m. til sunset. On tap: a live performance by City of the Sun and music by Elle Dee. Special menu items include street-style tacos (two for \$8), fresh fruit margaritas and more than 40 types of tequila. **Hudson Hotel, 356 W. 58th St. 212-554-6000**



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Bottoms up, craft beer lovers

Drinks. Here's why we're all about ditching the mainstream mugs.

A new book by journalist Tom Acitelli is getting us nice and thirsty for a pint of something heavy on the hops. "The Audacity of Hops" explores the craft beer revolution.

What attracts you to writing about beer, other than the obvious perk of sampling the goods?

I approached it as a journalist telling a business story. As I started researching, I found the craft beer business intersects with a lot of culinary trends. Another tangent is the role that craft breweries played in different cities. Brooklyn Brewery in Williamsburg had a lot to do with the gentrification in Brooklyn.

What do you think sparked the craft beer



Acitelli dedicated his book to his parents, but he says they aren't big beer drinkers. / SUBMITTED

If you go

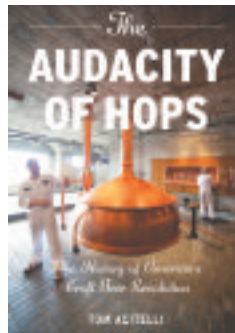
Tom Acitelli

Tonight
Brooklyn Brewery
79 N. 11th St.
7:30 p.m.

revolution?

There were two things:

There was an excise tax cut in 1976 for smaller brewers. Suddenly, it became less expensive to brew on a smaller scale. Two years later, home brewing was legalized. Home brewers could hobnob with commercial brewers, get new material from Europe and suddenly take that knowledge and turn pro at lower costs. I



do think along with that was a societal shift; people did get tired of homogenized beer. It all tasted the same after a while.

Do you have a favorite beer?

Maybe it's a function of age, but I now appreciate the milder, lower-alcohol beers. I can't drink like I used to. The extreme beers make it difficult to wake up the next morning and work.



CASSANDRA GARRISON
cassandra.garrison@metro.us



Cocktail of the week

We're not judging if you alternate between margaritas and mint juleps this Sunday — after all, Cinco de Mayo does fall on the same day as the Kentucky Derby this year. If you're tired of tequila, shake things up with this classic cocktail (just be sure to don your favorite bonnet in the process).

Maker's Mark Mint Julep

- 1.5 parts Maker's Mark Bourbon
- Fresh mint
- 2 tablespoons simple syrup* muddled with mint
- Splash of distilled water
- Powdered sugar

Directions: Mix together simple syrup muddled with mint, bourbon and distilled water. Fill glass with crushed ice and pour mixture over top. Sprinkle top of ice with powdered sugar. Garnish with a mint sprig.

***Simple syrup**

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup distilled water

Directions: Heat to dissolve sugar, stirring constantly so the sugar does not burn. Set aside to cool.

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Restaurant notes

No need for popcorn

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Something's fishy

Loved our oyster ideas last week? We've got one more we want to tell you about: Today, Eataly is hosting **Oyster Day at La Birreria** (the rooftop beer garden), with a sampling from noon-4 p.m. and happy hour from 4-6 p.m. For \$20 you get six oysters and an 8 oz. pour of beer — Perle ai Porci & Birreria Oyster Stout,



Get a margherita pizza from Roberta's at Madison Square Eats. PROVIDED

which is brewed with oyster shells! La Birreria is located at 200 Fifth Ave., Floor 14.

Now open

One of our favorite foodie pop-ups, **Madison Square Eats**, returns for another season tomorrow. Swing by Madison Square Park for bites from new vendors like Eleni's New York and Seoul Lee Korean Bar B Que, which will serve

food alongside returning faves like Roberta's and Red Hook Lobster Pound. The market is open until May 31.

Drink for charity

Wine Enthusiast magazine is celebrating 25 years with the 1920s Paris-themed **Red and White Bash** at the Hudson Hotel on May 9. A 12-piece orchestra will entertain the crowd and more than 90 wines will

be available for tasting. All ticket proceeds will go to the mag's charity partner, Wine to Water, which builds clean water sources. Tickets normally cost \$85, but you can get in for \$65 using the code WE25METRO at www.redandwhitebash.com.

Love Italian?

This Sunday, listen in as chefs spill their secrets. At **180**, pizzaiolo Salvatore Olivella will teach the secrets of vera pizza Napoletana (true Neapolitan pizza), like how to knead properly and how to make the perfect margherita sauce. And at **Spina**, enjoy meats, cheeses and wine while you learn the art of pasta-making. Then sit down to a meal prepared by chef Joseph Marcus. **180: \$65, 180 Hester St., second floor, 212-334-3811. Spina: \$75, 175 Ave. B., 212-253-2250.**

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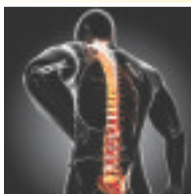
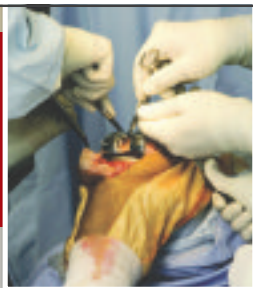
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3 to sip with mom

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2

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1

3

FORGET THE FANTASY AND GET REAL

The Hookup

AMBER MADISON

AMBERMADISON
ONLINE.COM

Amber Madison is a Manhattan-based relationship expert and dating coach. She is the author of 'Are All Guys Assholes?' for which she traveled the country, spoke to over 1,000 men and discovered that the answer to this question is no. You can follow her on Twitter @ambermadi



Unless you're one of the lucky few who's managed to pursue serious relationships without becoming neurotic, chances are you've spent some amount of time wondering about, analyzing or Facebook stalking your partner's ex. But why do we care so much? Why are we so fascinated and threatened by who came before us? Why does hearing their name immediately trigger our gag reflex?

The answer, perhaps, is that deep down we may be more romantic than we like to admit. There are unspoken rules we've made about what the perfect relationship looks like and how it unfolds. And though these trajectories aren't based in reality as much as the oversimplified plotlines of cheesy movies, there is still an element to those fantasies that feels true.

Rationally, we may know that having felt strong feelings before doesn't preclude someone from feeling them again — that it doesn't cheapen or change the next relationship. We may understand that people have multiple love stories, even multiple ones that really matter.



Getting real about love is an important part of success. / GETTY IMAGES/CREATAS RF

But in the Hollywood version of our lives, there is often only one great love affair. When faced with the reality that the person we love has already had a great love, the formula doesn't seem to work. Or, it makes us feel like we're just the aftermath — the one who stepped in after "the real thing" didn't work out.

Living through your 20s is all about losing the fantasies of how

Quoted

Living through your 20s is all about losing the fantasies of how your life should be.

your life should be. You learn to accept that your bachelor pad isn't going to be some swanky dream home. You reconcile that the big change you want to make in the world may be smaller and more slowly won. But is it

really necessary to give up on the perfect love story, too?

The problem with fantasies is that they can't be fought with facts. I offer up this advice, knowing that it may not work every

Tips

1 Take a Facebook holiday. It's not a crime scene. You're not going to discover hidden clues you missed the first 15 times you Facebook stalked your partner. All you're doing with Facebook stalking is driving yourself nuts.

2 Either you trust them or you don't. We can drive ourselves crazy imagining that our partner might cheat or break our hearts in some way. At some point we just need to trust our partners to be honest. If your gut says not to, end it.

3 Focus on fixing it. It's easy to blame things like exes, going out habits or job stress for problems, but it's more productive to see what things in the relationship can be fixed.

day: It's impossible to escape being in love without gaining a deeper understanding of yourself and what you need in a relationship. And in that respect, having loved before only makes loving again more meaningful.

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Horoscope

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. There are strong indications that personal gain is possible for you, provided you don't take any foolish last-minute risks.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. Associates who lack your drive and sense of adventure may be indifferent to your goals. If so, strike out on your own.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. If there is something or someone retarding your progress, take whatever measure necessary to change the situation.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. You tend to reflect the behavior patterns of your companions. Only if your personality is stronger than theirs will you be the one calling the shots.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Onlookers will admire your confidence and capabilities in handling tough projects.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Although you'll have good management skills in situations that require a deft touch, you may be hesitant to use them. Don't be.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. This is one of those days when you won't be able to please everyone.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. If you want to make a good impression, sincerity is a must. If you use false flattery, you could be perceived as a phony.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan. 20. If you take measures to trim all nonessentials from your budget, it could improve your financial picture.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 -

Feb. 18. You have what it takes to do well in most competitive situations, but if you're an ungracious winner, you will fall flat.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. When making a proposal, you should limit your presentation only to the hard facts.

Aries | March 21 - April 20. A commercial involvement with a friend could be on shaky ground. Be careful not to mismanage affairs; you don't want to lose a friend.
BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

		7					6	2
					4	9		8
8	3		9	7			1	
7	8		4					
			2		7			
					3		5	4
	7			4	9		2	3
4		2	5					
1	5					6		

3		9	7			8		
	6				2			
		8		1			9	7
		3	5	2			7	
4								1
	7			9	4	3		
9	5			6		1		
			2				6	
		6			1	4		9

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

Across

- 1 Tiny stream
- 5 Building add-on
- 9 Sulk
- 13 Asimov or Hayes
- 15 Popular cookie
- 16 Air France destination
- 17 Lion, to Tarzan
- 18 After-bath wear
- 19 — fix
- 20 Dangerous curve
- 21 Sketch
- 23 Mustard or mayo
- 25 Freight hazard
- 26 Basket willows
- 27 Wasted time
- 30 Quick lunch
- 31 Duelers' weapons
- 32 Secure position
- 37 Out on the briny
- 38 Bookcase-kit item
- 40 On vacation
- 41 With ceremony
- 43 Kate's sitcom friend
- 44 Princess perturber
- 45 Waylays
- 47 Blew hard
- 50 Celts, to Romans
- 51 Fragrant rose
- 52 Thin fog
- 53 Sugary drink

- 56 John, in Siberia
- 57 Adams or McClurg
- 59 Cove
- 61 Goose-down garment
- 62 Salt, to a chemist
- 63 Kid who rode Diablo
- 64 Anagram of "seal"
- 65 Risked a ticket
- 66 Kind of companion

Down

- 1 Hilltop
- 2 Osiris' wife
- 3 Takes a powder
- 4 Frankenstein milieu
- 5 Dosed the dog
- 6 Hematite yield
- 7 Corn Belt st.
- 8 Is cautious (2 wds.)
- 9 Watered silk
- 10 Mandate
- 11 Urgent appeals
- 12 Took a gander
- 14 Port opposite Dover
- 22 "Percent" ending
- 24 Brad — of "Moneyball"
- 25 Faint flicker
- 26 "Peter and the Wolf" duck
- 27 Fell on — ears
- 28 Lhasa —
- 29 Lascivious look
- 32 Cook bacon

- 33 Moon rings
- 34 Nocturnal birds
- 35 Milk, to Yves
- 36 Batik need
- 38 Uses Brillantine
- 39 Not nude
- 42 Living qtrs.
- 43 Acid in vinegar
- 45 Off course
- 46 Variety of lettuce
- 47 Mallet
- 48 Amherst sch.
- 49 End-of-year temp
- 51 Go in headfirst
- 52 Nursery rhyme trio
- 53 To boot
- 54 Retro art style
- 55 007's alma mater
- 58 Skip stones
- 60 Tip of a pen

Yesterday's answer



Letters

Grads face stacked odds

Re: "Solutions to college debt" (May 1) Mr. Penner's claims that student debt could be solved by refusing to give college students their tax refunds are unfounded.

The odds are stacked against kids going to college. Sixty-five percent of my graduating class is underemployed or unemployed. This idea that we're all sitting around waiting for our tax returns to arrive while avoiding paying our school bills is ludicrous. I don't know what graduates you're referring to, but they aren't from this generation.

LESLIE C MORTLAND, VIA EMAIL

Writer ignores facts

Re: "Frisky wealthy white men?" (May 1)

The letter to the editor by the writer who said that white men have caused the biggest financial fraud, referring to the financial crisis of 2007-08, was an odd, ignorant comment.

This writer ignores the fact that tens of thousands of individuals bought homes they couldn't afford. No one forced these people to buy homes with ridiculous mortgages.

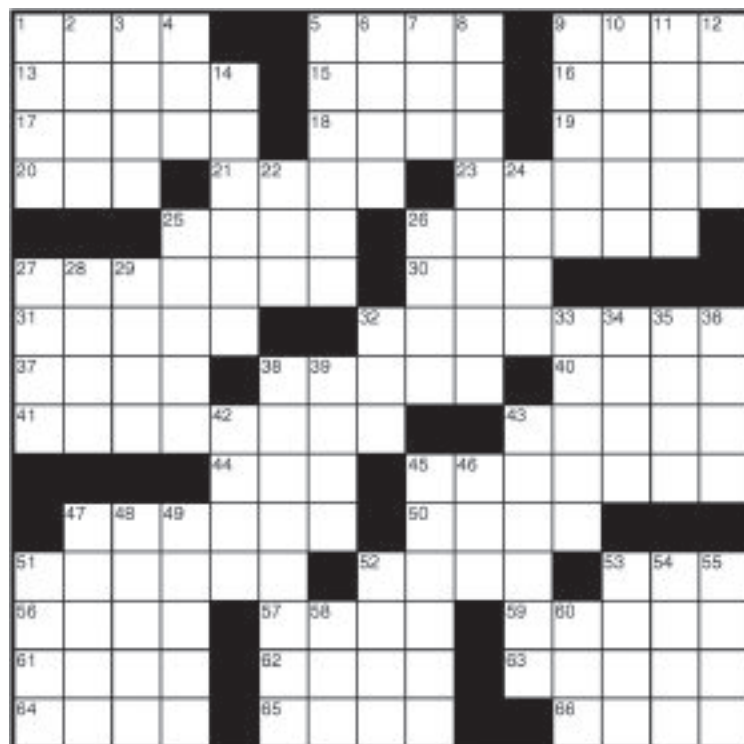
RON FALCON, VIA EMAIL

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3

SPORTS



Great 'Dame'

**Lillard
named
top
rookie**

In one of the least surprising votes of NBA award season Portland point guard Damian Lillard took Rookie of the Year in unanimous fashion yesterday. Lillard, the No. 6 pick in the draft, was the presumed leader for the award essentially all season. He averaged 19 points and 6.5 assists per game.

Magic orb

**Orb is
Derby
favorite**

Orb was installed as the favorite to win the Kentucky Derby, at 7-2 odds, a slight favorite over undefeated Verrazano. Goldencents, the horse co-owned by Louisville basketball coach Rick Pitino, is the third betting choice at 5-1.

Series slipping away as Knicks never in Game 5

NBA playoffs. The Knicks now must travel to Boston for a Game 6 after failing to close out the series again.

The Celtics reached down and relied on their fabled pride as they staved off elimination for yet another game, as they shocked the Knicks, 92-86, in Game 5 of the first round of the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Boston has now climbed back into the series as they're down 3-2, but with Game 6 back in Beantown, there's now a real possibility that both teams will be playing again in New York on Sunday at the Garden for a Game 7.

Carmelo Anthony did all he could to keep the Celtics at bay as he tallied

a team-high 22 points, but he needed 24 shots to do so. It also didn't help as he got no assistance from his sidekick, J.R. Smith, who at one point shot 0-for-10 from the floor. Smith was suspended for the last game after elbowing Jason Terry and would not speak his name in practice on Tuesday.

Terry got revenge in Game 5 with 17 points, including five 3-pointers.

"I'm a 13-year vet," Jason Terry told TNT after the game. "If he doesn't know who I am, after this series he will."

The two teams had to be separated as they left the court with Raymond Felton jawing at Jordan Crawford.

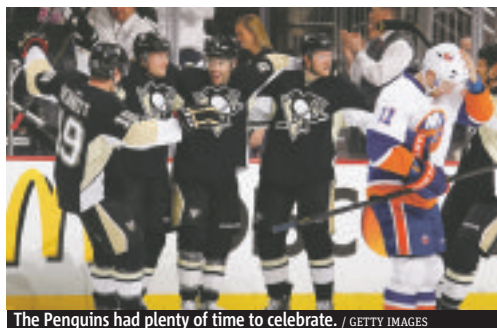
Kevin Garnett dominated in the post with 16 points and 18 rebounds.

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Jeff Green finished with an economical 18 points on 5-of-8 shooting to lead Boston. / NBAE, GETTY IMAGES

Penguins rout Islanders in Game 1



The Penguins had plenty of time to celebrate. / GETTY IMAGES

It had been 2,203 days since the New York Islanders competed in a Stanley Cup playoff game.

It may take that long to wipe the egg off their faces after being thoroughly outclassed by the Penguins, 5-0, in Game 1 last night at the CONSOL Energy Center.

Game 2 is Friday night in Pittsburgh.

Not one Islander distinguished himself in

the series opener against the top-seeded Penguins. Fourteen Islanders finished minus-1 or worse. The top line of Brad Boyes, John Tavares and Matt Moulson only generated 14 shot attempts. Evgeni Nabokov was pulled after yielding four goals in the series' first 21:51.

Even more of a concern was that the Penguins spent much of the game skating with impu-

nity.

Pascal Dupuis scored two goals, and Beau Bennett, Kris Letang and Tanner Glass each potted a marker. Nine Penguins were plus-1 or better. Ten Penguins recorded at least one point in the game.

Marc-Andre Fleury made 26 saves to earn his sixth career shutout in the Stanley Cup playoffs.

DENIS GORMAN

Streak free

**Mets rally to
break streak**

The Mets rallied from a 4-1 deficit with four runs in the sixth inning to salvage the final game of a series with Miami and break a six-game losing streak.

The bullpen struggled, but Bobby Parnell was solid as he picked up a save in the 7-6 victory.

The Marlins jumped on Mets starter Dillon Gee in the first inning with three runs. Gee wasn't sharp, but he did earn his second win of the season. He allowed just one run in the four innings after the first.

Jordany Valdespin provided the big hit, with a three-run pinch-hit home run in the sixth inning.

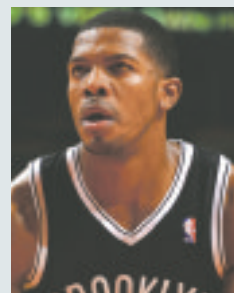
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Just a decoy?

**Johnson calls
himself 'decoy'
due to injury**

Joe Johnson has accepted the fate of playing with a sore foot, especially with at least one elimination game looming. There's little he can do but spot up and hope for the best when he releases a shot.

"It's kind of like I'm



Johnson plans on playing despite the pain. / GETTY IMAGES

out there on one leg, honestly, man," Johnson said after yesterday's practice. "I can't really push the basketball if I get a rebound. I can't really run pick and rolls, so basically I'm a decoy, a spot-up shooter, I can't really do a whole lot. I'll be the bailout guy if you get into a sticky situation just try and find me." **LARRY FLEISHER**



Mats Zuccarello has provided an offensive spark since his midseason signing. / BRUCE BENNETT, GETTY IMAGES

Familiar foe awaits Rangers in opener

NHL playoffs. New York just snuck into the playoffs, but expectations are still high.

Signs of spring are upon us. The days are longer, the weather is warmer and the Rangers and Capitals meet

in a playoff series.

For the third time in three years — and fourth in five years — the Rangers and Capitals face off in the postseason. The Eastern Conference quarterfinals begin tonight in Washington (7:30 p.m., MSG+).

"We are where we need to be," Dan Girardi said after the regular-season finale. "April was a good

month for us. We played our style of hockey and won in different fashions."

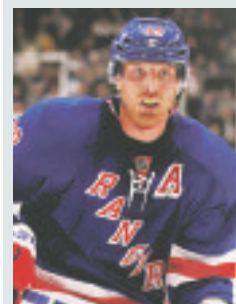
A preseason favorite to win the Stanley Cup, the Rangers spent much of the first 10 weeks of the season alternating wins and losses before authoring a strong April, in which they went 10-3-1 and led the NHL with 3.6 goals per game. **DENIS GORMAN**

Sleeping giant

Brad Richards finding his offensive game

When the Rangers brought in Mats Zuccarello at midseason, it had the effect of jump-starting the slumping Brad Richards.

Richards, who finished the season with 11 goals and 23 assists in 45 games, had 16 points (six goals and 10 assists) in April.



Richards was placed on a line with Zuccarello and Rick Nash on April 25. / GETTY IMAGES

"It's been a work in progress," Richards said Saturday. "It's a good time to start feeling good."

"If it's an 82-game schedule, I probably don't let some of the stuff get to me like I did. In the position I was in, it is tough to see your team battling in the seventh, eighth, ninth spot if you aren't producing. I might have forced it a bit because of the short season. ... Finally, something broke through." **DENIS GORMAN**

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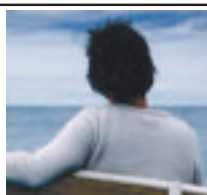
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